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Boston, April 27, 1877.

Dear Mr. Marshall:

In response to your letter of inquiry, it may perhaps suffice for me to say that I still strongly adhere to the sentiments expressed in my Sonnet quoted by you; that I discard all human authority in matters of religious belief and practice, and maintain it is the right and the duty of every one to judge and decide for himself what is truth and what error; that popular, fashionable religion in our day is as lacking in vitality as it was in the days of Jesus; that no book, or day, or institution possesses any inherent sacredness; that the worst heresy is a slavish conformity to what happens to be the orthodox standard of the hour; and that fruits render all professions superfluous.

Yours to "prove all things,"

Wm. Lloyd Garrison.